

Message

From: McKim, Krista [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=AEBEEF6C80E141A29AA2BDDDD7329121-KMCKIM]
Sent: 4/26/2016 1:50:49 PM
To: Pierard, Kevin [pierard.kevin@epa.gov]
Subject: RE: Minntac, Mining petition and Polymet.

I suspect the agenda is set up to get Ann to say exactly what she said to you (paragraph 2). tribes just wanted to hear it first hand.

From: Pierard, Kevin
Sent: Tuesday, April 26, 2016 8:46 AM
To: McKim, Krista <mckim.krista@epa.gov>; Wester, Barbara <wester.barbara@epa.gov>; Steinbauer, Gary <steinbauer.gary@epa.gov>; Mucha, Amy P. <Mucha.Amy@epa.gov>; Ireland, Scott <ireland.scott@epa.gov>
Subject: Minntac, Mining petition and Polymet.

I had a conversation with Ann Foss this morning concerning the upcoming call with the tribes.

Minntac: She said she was surprised by the agenda the Tribe provided as she believed we were only going to discuss Minntac. She said she would not have much to say to the tribes concerning these agenda topics and believed it was more appropriate for the tribal coordination meeting (PCA and Tribes) later this week. She said that EPA has been very clear to all parties on the regulatory status of the subsurface discharge from Minntac yet there has been no EPA enforcement for this unpermitted discharge. I explained that I know little about the enforcement effort.

Petition: Ann said that they can only move forward to permit sites that do not have wild rice waters downstream so this limits their reissuance work to the North Shore site which they expect to reissue by the end of the FY. She said the other permits are simply too complicated. She said the view in the legislature is that EPA will do nothing in response to the petition so they are really not worried about it. She said there is legislation which would allow Keetac to violate the limits in their permit. She acknowledged that since the petition was received Minnesota has done nothing to improve the situation and in fact has done things that seem to confirm the petition allegations.

Polymet: Ann confirmed that the meeting on May 19 will be from 9am to 3pm and will focus on the mine site and to a large extent on the northerly flow component. This conversation is intended to guide polymet in preparation of their application. She said we will also spend time wrapping up our discussion of the plant site options so polymet can begin work on their application. We may want to consider what EPA reps should attend given the focus on the northerly flow component. We should probably arrange a pre-meeting including knowledgeable NEPA and wetlands staff. Ann said she would provide an agenda a few days prior to the meeting.

From: Margaret Watkins [mailto:mwatkins@grandportage.com]
Sent: Monday, April 25, 2016 3:21 PM
To: McKim, Krista <mckim.krista@epa.gov>; Pierard, Kevin <pierard.kevin@epa.gov>; Mucha, Amy P. <Mucha.Amy@epa.gov>; Steinbauer, Gary <steinbauer.gary@epa.gov>; nancyschuldt@fdlrez.com; Foss, Ann (MPCA) <ann.foss@state.mn.us>; Hyde, Tinka <hyde.tinka@epa.gov>; R5WD-ConfCallLine-A/Conference-Call-Line/R5-WATER <r5wd-confcallline-a@epa.gov>
Cc: Ireland, Scott <ireland.scott@epa.gov>; Stollenwerk, Jeff (MPCA) <jeff.stollenwerk@state.mn.us>
Subject: RE: call with Fond du Lac, Grand Portage, MPCA and EPA regarding NPDES permitting for Minntac

All:

Please find below a short6 agenda for the call tomorrow:

1. Progress on the EPA MPCA Joint Priorities Agreement
2. Existing Wild Rice Criteria Implementation
3. Seepage Capture Performance

-----Original Appointment-----

From: McKim, Krista [<mailto:mckim.krista@epa.gov>]

Sent: Monday, April 25, 2016 10:47 AM

To: Pierard, Kevin; Mucha, Amy P.; Steinbauer, Gary; Margaret Watkins; nancyschuldt@fdirez.com; Foss, Ann (MPCA); Hyde, Tinka; R5WD-ConfCallLine-A/Conference-Call-Line/R5-WATER

Cc: Ireland, Scott; Stollenwerk, Jeff (MPCA)

Subject: call with Fond du Lac, Grand Portage, MPCA and EPA regarding NPDES permitting for Minntac

When: Tuesday, April 26, 2016 3:00 PM-4:00 PM (UTC-06:00) Central Time (US & Canada).

Where: R5Metcalf-ConfRm-R1600/R5-Metcalf-16th-Floor

This meeting was requested by Fond du Lac and Grand Portage environmental staff – Nancy and Margaret, can you please provide a brief agenda that you would like to follow for the call?

EPA folks will meet in 1600.

I'll finalize the meeting time once I have confirmation that this time will work for the group.

I have reserved a Conference line:

877-226-9607

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